Latest Art, Culture, Food, Tourism News, Views & Announcements

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE

INK OCHi

FIRST OF ITS KIND FROM KERALA

VOL-1 ISSUE - 37
DEC 24-31, 2021

37

- Nagda Hamlet
- Amazing to Know

BARBECUE REPUBLIC
Photo Book by:
HARIHARAN S

Charcoal
Chalk &
Pastel

By: Wojciech Krupa

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE
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Editor's Note

We Wish You All A Merry Christmas

This is the most wonderful time of the year for those who celebrate Christmas. It's a time when we tend to hum and smile a little more. The feelings of Thanksgiving are still with us, as we count our blessings of this year. As citizens, we are reflecting on COVID-19 with the rest of the world as we try to stay ahead of each variant in our determination to vaccinate everyone to avoid shutdowns and deaths.

There are so many things running through our minds as we prepare for this holiday, and year-end closure. Some of us are unemployed, homeless and have lost everything; a family member may be in the hospital or not feeling to well; or a dear one has been shipped out for outside duty. Some of us will do our last minute shopping, as we check our lists to make sure we got everyone a gift. We may even have second thoughts about a person or two. However, this year it is different. That one person, who has always been there for every holiday, is no longer with us. Tears of remembrance rolls down the side of our face. We look through family photographs and memories of Christmas past, and still look forward to being with family and friends. We think about the sweet aroma of those special meals and desserts, which are usually prepared, and look at the extra pounds we have put on since Thanksgiving. We smile. It is all good, and it is the most wonderful time of the year.

This year as we come closer to December 25, we begin to understand and appreciate what this day is truly all about. We pause and ask ourselves . . . ***what is the true meaning of Christmas?***

Merry Christmas!

Happy Reading...!!
Varghese T. Thomas

amazing to know

Football ground at 11000ft. above sea level, Ladakh.

Source: Ladakh Tourism

Begumpuri Mosque

The roof of Begumpuri Mosque, that has now caved in. Though huge in size, next only to its Mughal successor, the Jama Masjid, the Begumpuri Mosque is simple in terms of decoration and has a geometric layout, an essential feature of the Timurid architecture that dominates this mosque. Built during the 14th century, it finds its place in the seven renowned mosques built by the Prime Minister of Feroz Shah Tughlaq's court, Khan-i-Jahan-Junan Shah.

Contribution : simran kaursaini

amazing to know

A 2000-year-old Thracian chariot with horse skeletons found in the village of Karanovo, Bulgaria, in 2008

Contribution: Kasavi Ulgari

The Cyrus Cylinder And The Ancient Proclamation of Human Rights

An old cylinder discovered in a temple in Babylon (modern-day Iraq) sporting cuneiform inscriptions revealed some surprising edicts. Linked with the Persian king, Cyrus the Great, founder of the Achaemenid Empire, many believe the Cylinder lays out the world's first declaration of universal human rights.

More than two millennia before the French Revolution introduced the Declaration of the Rights of Man. Of the Citizens, an ancient Near Eastern monarch issued a charter considered the oldest known declaration of human rights. This charter is known today as the Cyrus Cylinder.

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"The face of Truth is covered with a brilliant golden lid; that do thou remove, O Fosterer, for the law of the Truth, for sight."
---Hariharan. S

BARBECUE REPUBLIC
Photo Book by:
HARIHARAN. S

Reviews by:

JOHNY ML - Eminent art historian, critic, writer and curator

KOYAMPARAMBATH SATCHIDANANDAN - Eminent poet, academic, translator and editor

HARIHARAN. S

Bio Note

Hariharan.S started out as a painter in the early 1980s. His paintings were accepted for exhibition in the annual shows of the Kerala Lalitha Kala Academy from 1982 to 1989. He gave up painting and started to focus on photography. His images have been published in major international and national journals. He has exhibited his prints in the UAE, Germany and many Indian cities. His prints also form part of international collections.

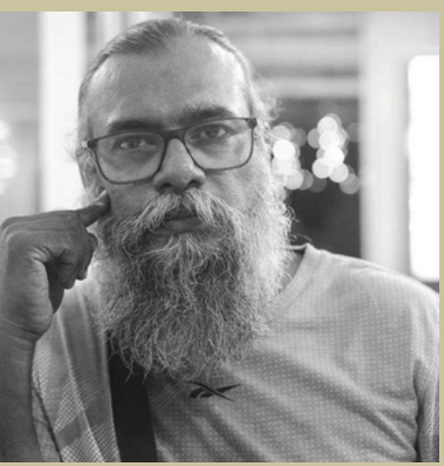
His work has evolved over the years and he now focuses on creating works in which our realities and fantasies are entwined. He has been awarded twice by the Black & White Universe, London, for excellence in monochrome photography and also in All India Photography salons recognised by the FIP. He is a Vice President of the Image Photographic Association, Palakkad, the oldest functioning photography forum in Kerala and an editorial board member of the Photo Muse Journal, an international fine art journal published by the Better Art Foundation, Kodaly, Thrissur.

He had served as a member of the jury which selected the awarded works for the Lalitha Kala Academy photography awards for the year 2017-2018. His photo series BARBECUE REPUBLIC had received the Lalitha Kala Academy grant for Photography earlier this year.

He is one of the participants of Lokame Tharavadu, the seminal exhibition of art curated by Bose Krishnamachari currently running in Alappuzha, Kerala, India.

He lives in Palakkad and bases his work mostly from Kochi.

Left to Right- Vivek Vilasini, Ishrath Humairah, P.K.Medini, Hariharan S., Bose Krishnamachari



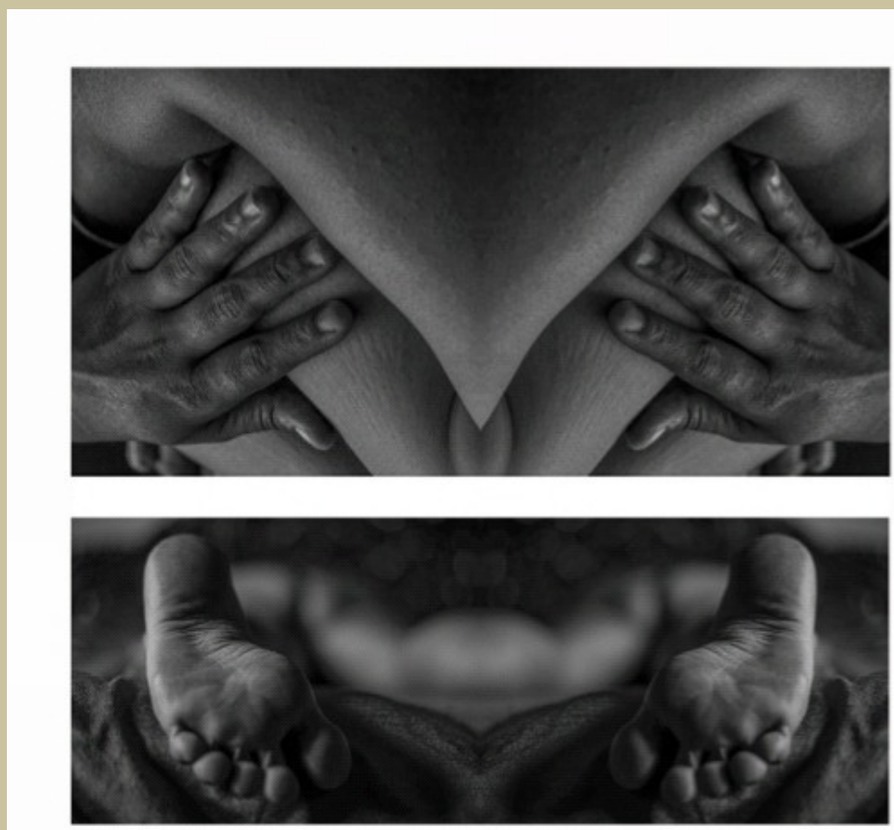
Review by:
JOHNY ML - Eminent art historian, critic, writer and curator

Human body is a taken for granted given, a cauldron of existence and an acquiescent system of being. Beyond self-preservation, survival and beautification human beings hardly are aware of the forces that act upon their physical bodies.

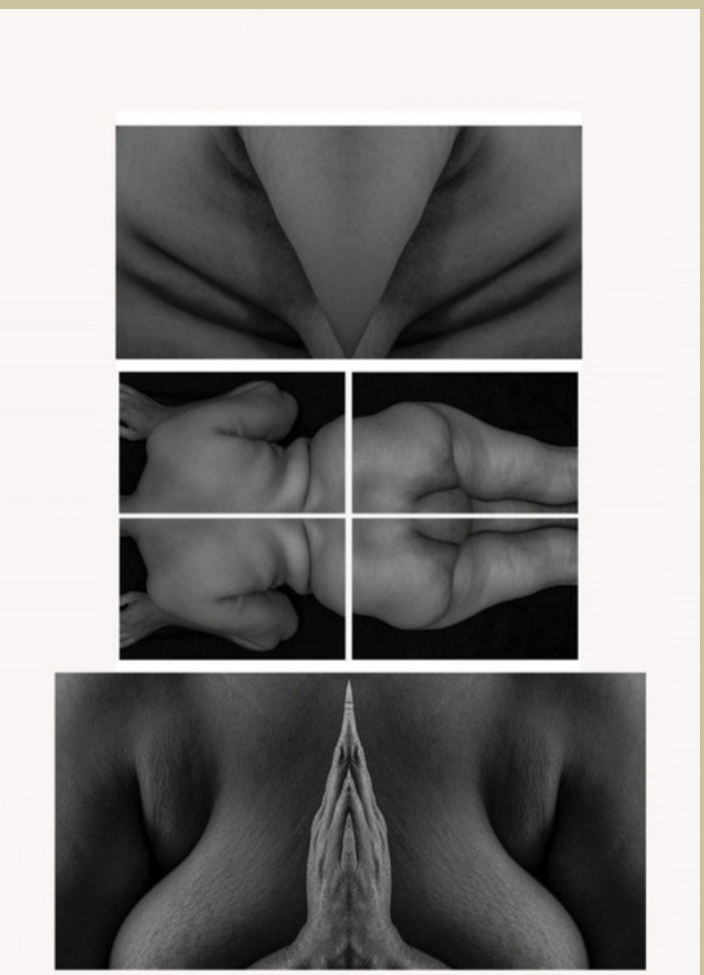
With the changes periodically occur in our socio-cultural and politico-economic systems human bodies get severely affected, turning them into contortionists in a virtual plane, adjusting and readjusting with the revolutions in the material culture, ironically insufficiently aware of it. >>

While the State considers the human bodies as manipulable objects, framing memories and sensations as the immediate points of departure, body remembers itself through the framed memories and once out of successive subjections by the State, again it reorganizes itself by calling upon the very same palimpsest of memories. The very act of remembering is at once an end and beginning of a body. However, the former body makes its traces felt and they come back in the newly reorganized body after the interventions of the state and its ideologies.

In his Barbecue Republic, a photo-book (a book of photographic works) Hariharan S brings forth the idea of subjection of the body through a series of semi-gendered imageries. >>



The book was launched at LokameTharavadu Art Exhibition Centre, Alappuzha, Kerala, on November 6, 2021, by P.K.Medini, the lone surviving woman freedom fighter of Kerala and a revolutionary singer



Structurally strong and aesthetically evocative these photographs find their image-form in a nude fe/male body and its manipulations through photographic as well as digital technology. The sort of dismembering of the body in order to conjoin it in bizarre combinations provides an interface to understand the idea of subjection and manipulation.

The disavowal of conventions by the artist regarding the perfection and beauty conceptions pertaining to the female body emphasizes the inconsiderate and callous manipulations that the state could inflict upon its subjects. This body of works should be a result of the ongoing peasant and citizen struggles in various parts of the country (and elsewhere) in which often the human bodies are brought under extreme surveillance and torturous conditions. That ‘cabined, cribbed and confined’ feeling that the dispossessed and the abjured citizenry experience is palpable in these images.

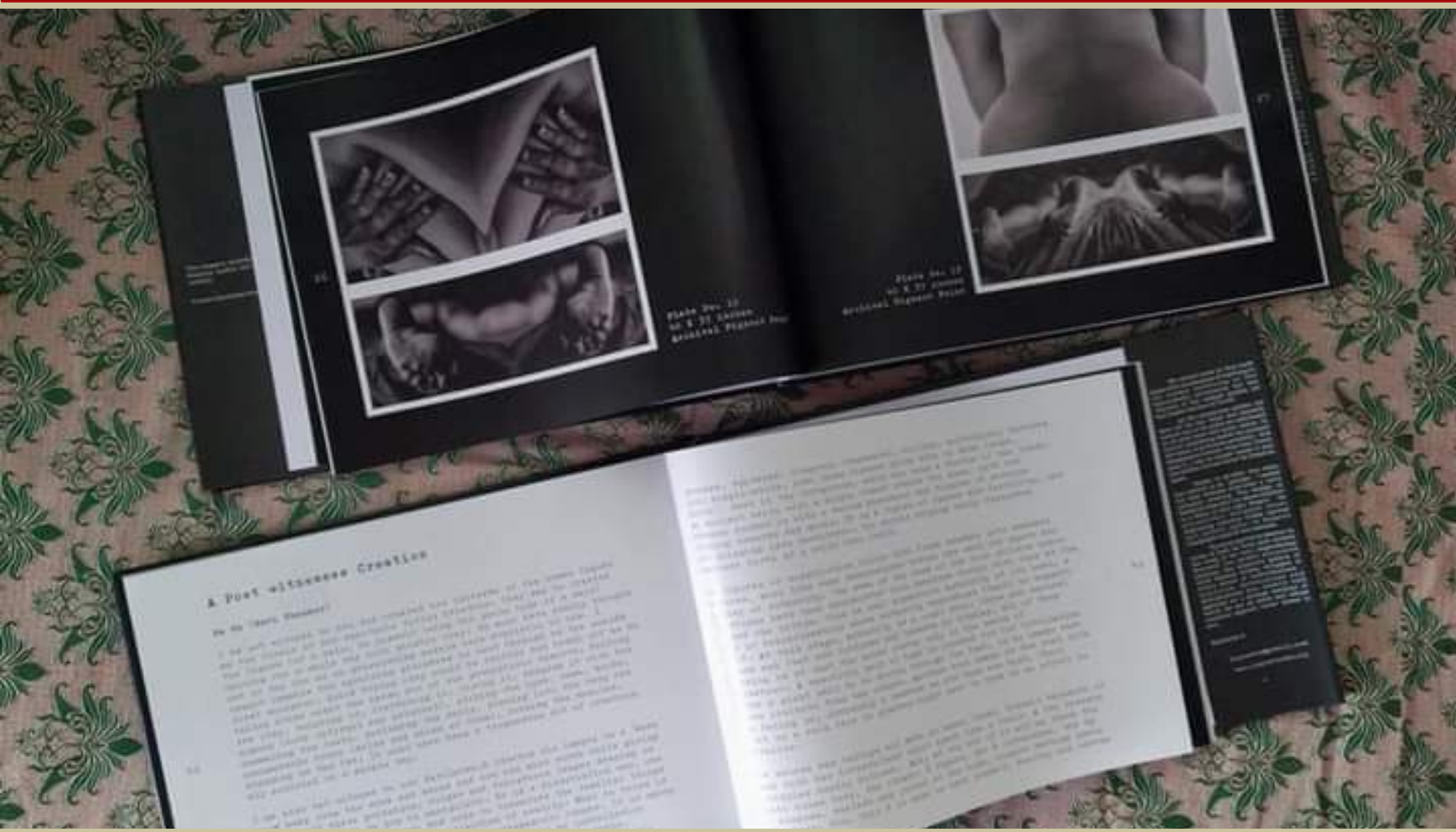
Hariharan’s apposite selection of the female body as a model is to be seen along with his suffusion of the essence of Beethoven’s 9th Symphony on the memorial bodies and the corporeal memories of those women and children (also men) who had gone into the gas chambers and the lucky ones who had saved their emaciated bodies due to the intervention of the rescue troops. >>

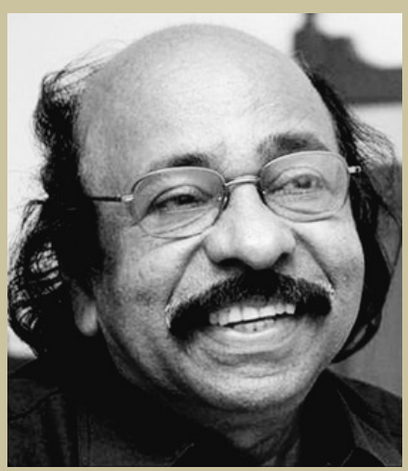
Hariharan. S with
Varghese Thomas
(Editor &Publisher -
INKochi Magazine)

Hariharan. S with
P.K.Medini

Hariharan sincerely doubts whether the symphony ever evoked the same sensations of joy and contentment as the musical genius had intended as they came out to live another life in a changed world with their changed bodies and irrevocably scarred memories.

Photo-books are a rarity in this part of the world and if at all there they are all bound to be featuring the photographs of the literary stalwarts clicked by their ever admiring companion photographers. They serve the role of memorable albums and the purpose of a visual socio-cultural documentary. But a photo-book in terms of the artistic pursuits is not a compilation of random photographs taken by a photography artist but a book produced with a particular ideological and aesthetical intention. Hariharan's book 'Barbecue Republic' seems to be one of the pioneering works, originally printed and published from Kerala. >>





Review by:
KOYAMPARAMBATH SATCHIDANANDAN
Eminent poet, academic, translator and editor

Requiem for Flesh , a series of photographs taken and worked on by Hariharan S and published by Logos Pattambi is one of the most exciting - albeit agonising- books I have come across in recent years. It is a book , in a sense, on the vulnerabilities of human flesh that could any moment turn into meat in a torture- machine or a gas chamber or even in a female prison, a reminder of many periods of history including ours when the body is reduced to fodder for torture machines. It also carries insightful essays, besides by the author, by Deepak John Mathew, Radha Gomaty , Ishrath Humairah , and Ravi Shankar (Ra Sh). <>

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Design: Subin Kumar

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Vocal: GAYATHRY RAJIV (Mazhavil Manorama Super 4 Contestant)
BGM: AJAYAN K. S. | Studio: GEETHAM MEDIA STUDIO, KOCHI
Recorded, Mix & Mastered: JINTO JOHN
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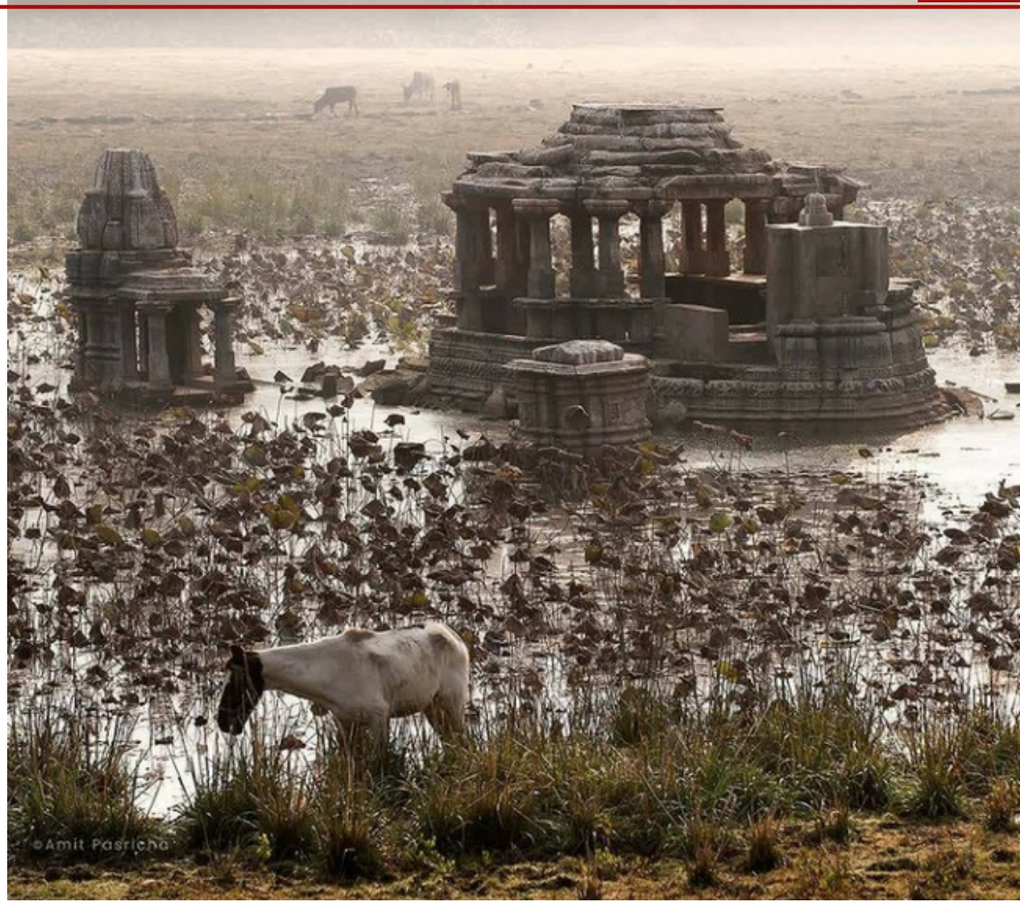
Nagda Hamlet

RAJASTHAN



Nagda is a hamlet in Udaipur, Rajasthan. It was a significant city in the early Mewar state. Today, it is mostly known for the ruins of the Sahastra Bahu Temples. Nagda was presumably founded in the 7th century CE by King Nagaditya of the Gehlot dynasty, and it was known as Nagahrada at the time. Nagda was Mewar's initial capital and remained so until about 948 when it was moved to Ahar. Nagda was re-established as the capital of Mewar in 1116 and remained so until the early 13th century when it was devastated by Sultan Iltutmish's armies.

The Sahasra Bahu temples, also known as the Sasbahu Temples, are a pair of late 10th-century Hindu temples dedicated to Veerabadra in Nagda, Rajasthan. They share a platform facing the temple tank and are identical in appearance, albeit one is somewhat bigger than the other. The bigger temple is encircled by ten secondary shrines, the smaller by four, with just the bases of several of them remaining. Many features of somewhat later Maru-Gurjara architecture may be seen in the temples.

A sanctuary, a mandapa with side projections, and an open porch are all features of both temples. Their slightly dilapidated shikharas are made of brick and have several subsidiary turrets. The smaller temple has been mostly rebuilt, while the bigger one remains truncated. A Torana-style entry screen with four columns and a beautiful cusped arch in the centre is located under the platform. The interiors and some of the exteriors, particularly around the porches, are ornately carved, although the majority of the exteriors are simple.

The temple of Sas is bigger than the temple of Bahu. The octagonal roof of the 'Bahu' temple is embellished with eight intricately carved female figurines. The 'Sas' temple has a Torana (archway) in front. On ceremonial occasions, a picture of Lord Vishnu was swung from the Torana, accompanied with chants in adoration to the Lord. Both temples are built on a similar platform with an eastward orientation, and are known for their beautiful sculptures.

Thought by ILF Expert Rohit Kumar Shaw

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CHARCOAL CHALK & PASTEL

By: Wojciech Krupa

Oil Pastels

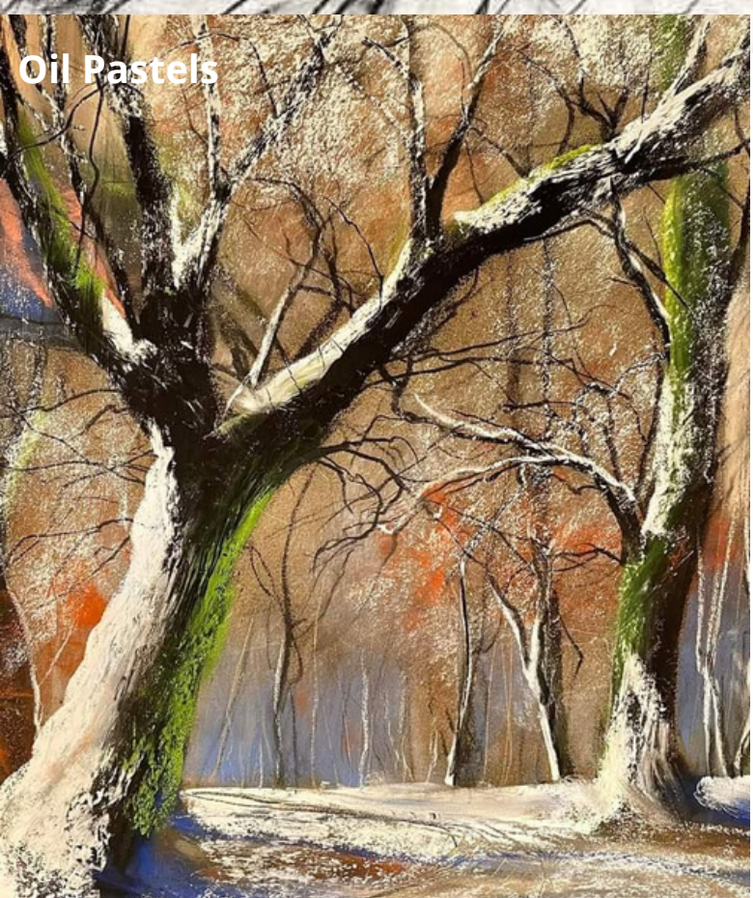
Wojciech Krupa is 54 years old, a cardiac surgeon by profession. He has been involved in painting for 15 years. So far he has had exhibitions in Bad Bevensen and in the state library in Cottbus. Whenever time permits, he seek the way into nature accompanied by pencil, charcoal pencil, pastel and watercolor.

Charcoal & Chalk

Oil Pastels

Charcoal

Charcoal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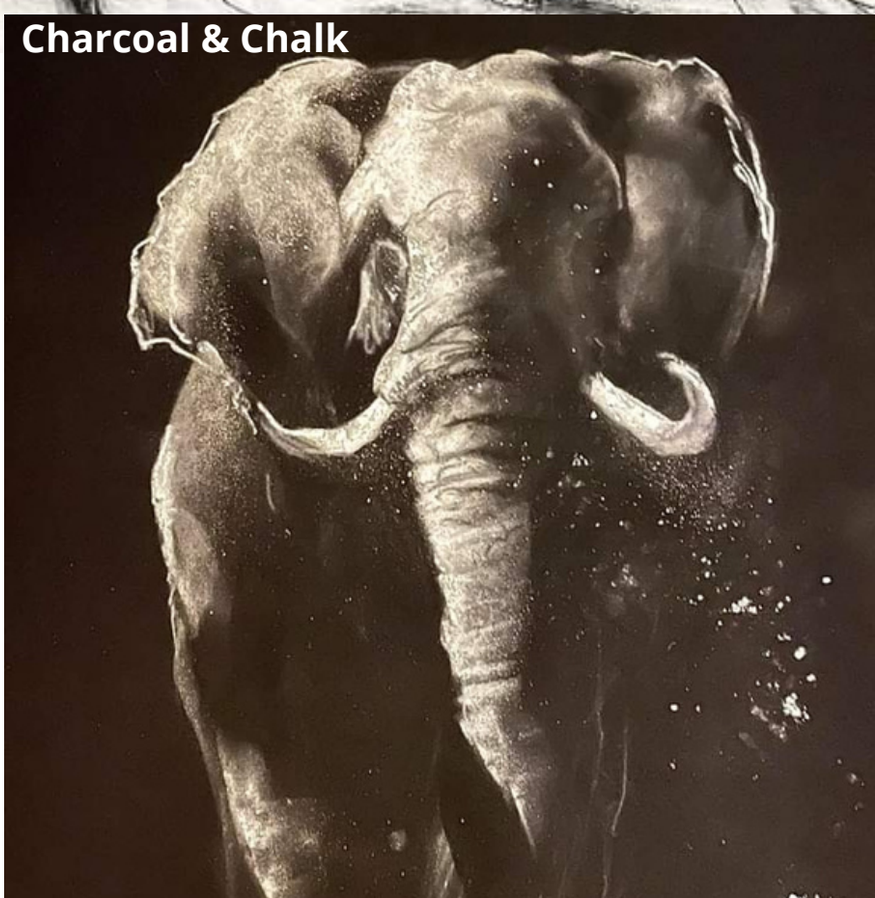
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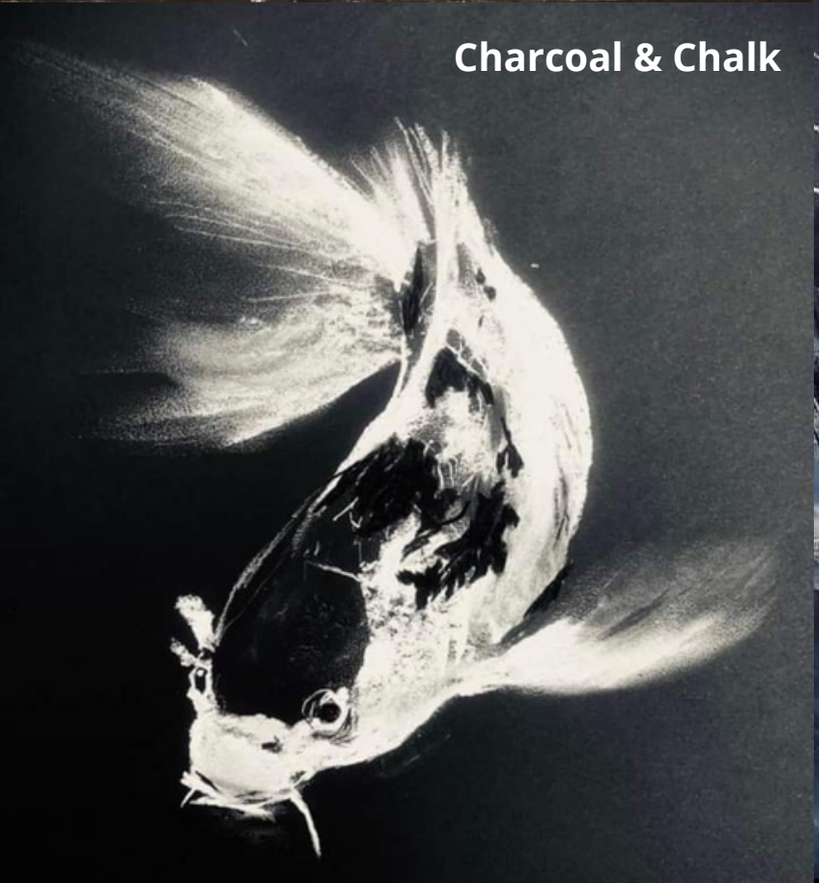
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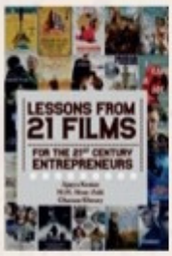

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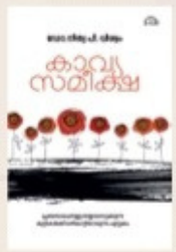

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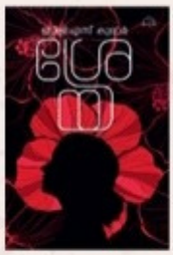

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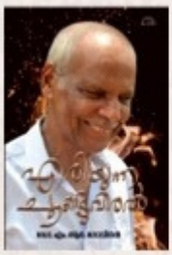
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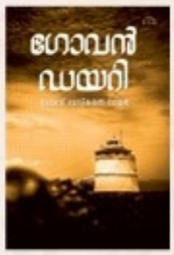

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Portraying KERALA

PC: SAAHIL RAHMAN

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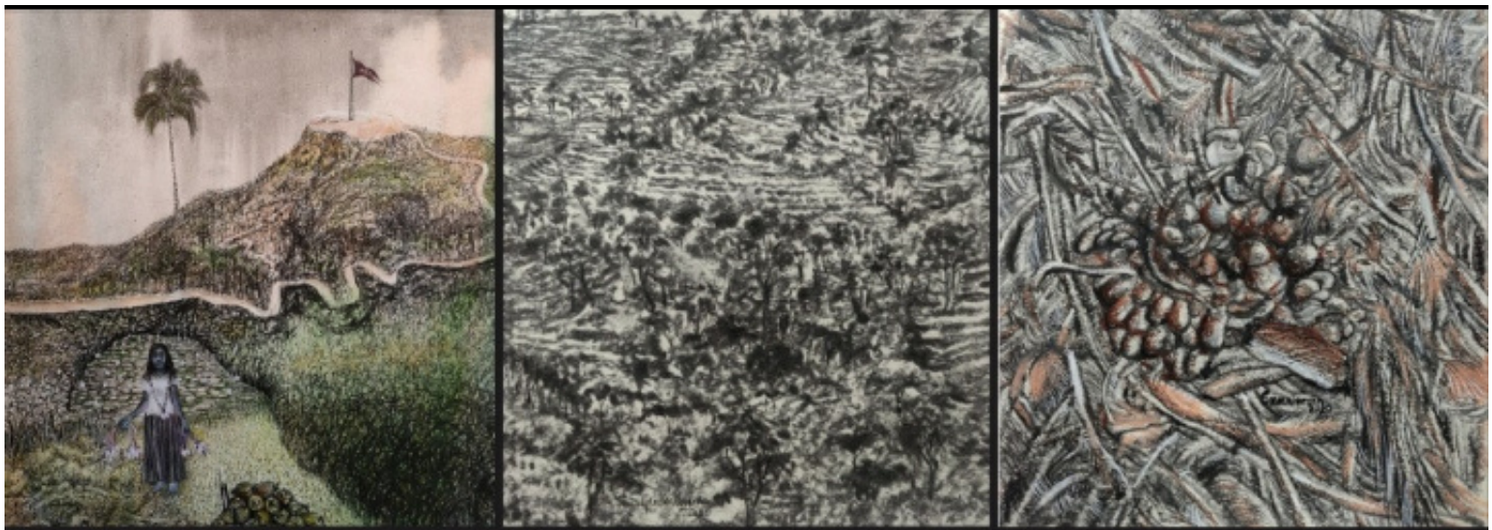

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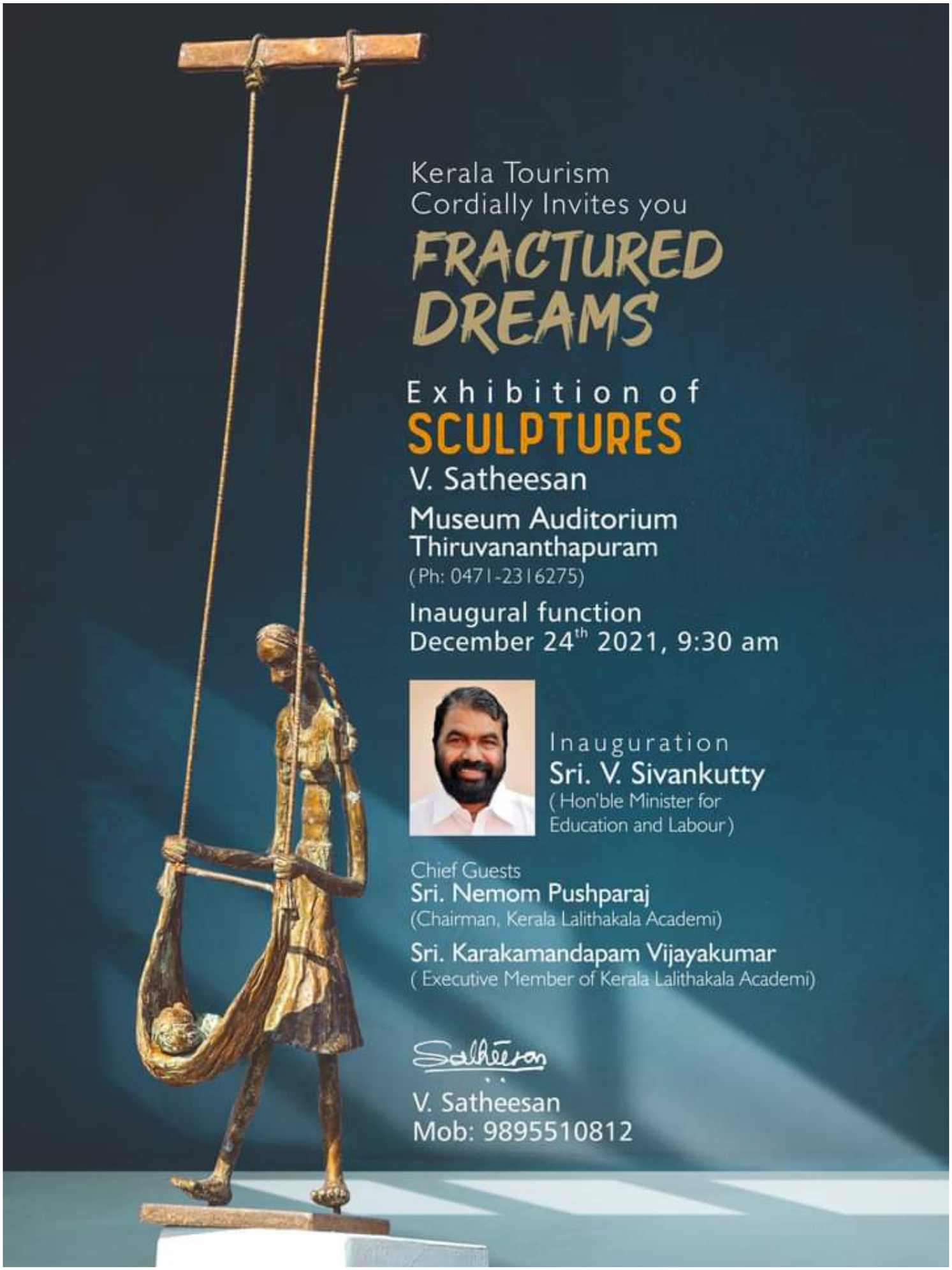
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